



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/797,382

03/10/2004

Marian Trinkel

20811/0204770-US0

3246

95402

7590

12/22/2010

LEYDIG, VOIT AND MAYER
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA, SUITE 4900
180 NORTH STETSON AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60601

EXAMINER

JACKSON, JAKIEDA R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/22/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/797,382	TRINKEL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JAKIEDA R. JACKSON	2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 7-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3 and 7-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. In response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2010, applicant submitted an amendment filed on October 6, 2010, in which the applicant traversed and requested reconsideration.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's argues that the prior art cited does not specifically teach speaking the vocabulary data to the speech recognition system in an *automated manner* using the audio modules so as to expand the vocabulary data. However, automating requires routine skill in the art and as the court held broadly providing an automatic or mechanical means to replace a manual activity which accomplished the same result is not sufficient to distinguish over the prior art (MPEP 2144.04). Therefore, Applicant's arguments have been considered, but are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1, 3, 7-11 and 14-17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ittycheriah et al. (USPN 6,185,530), hereinafter referenced as Ittycheriah in view of Lin et al. (PGPUB 2002/0049848), hereinafter referenced as Lin.

Regarding **claim 1**, Ittycheriah discloses a method for at least one of generating and expanding a vocabulary database of a speech recognition system (vocabulary expansion; column 3, lines 35-51 and column 5, lines 20-54), comprising:

providing a computer-based audio module (computer-based; column 2, lines 60-64 with column 3, line 35 – column 4, line 14); and

training the speech recognition system (speech recognition) by acoustic training using the audio module (acoustic; column 3, line 35 – column 4, line 14),

wherein the training the speech recognition system is performed by:

providing the audio module with vocabulary data (vocabulary; column 3, line 35 – column 4, line 14 with column 5, lines 20-54); and

speaking the vocabulary data (figure 1; speech utterance and element 24 with conventional input devices; column 5, lines 20-54) to the speech recognition system (speech recognition system) in an automated manner using the audio module so as to expand the vocabulary database (vocabulary expansion; column 3, line 35 – column 4, line 14 with column 5, lines 20-54 and column 6, lines 40-42), but does not specifically teach providing an audio module with vocabulary data in a streaming mode from a telecommunications network.

Lin discloses a method comprising providing an audio module with vocabulary data (paragraphs 0003, 0010 and 0016-0022), to generate updated data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ittycheriah's method as described above, to dynamically provide updated data, such that relevant information is stored (paragasphs 0020-0022), as taught by Lin.

Regarding **claim 3**, Ittycheriah discloses a method wherein the training the speech recognition system (speech recognition system) is performed by providing the audio module with vocabulary data from a speech database (column 3, line 35 – column 4, line 14 with column 5, lines 20-54).

Regarding **claim 7**, Ittycheriah discloses a method of expanding a vocabulary method further comprising creating the speech database by automated speech synthesis of text data using a speech synthesis unit (TTS synthesis; column 5, lines 20-54).

Regarding **claim 8**, Ittycheriah discloses a method further comprising providing the text data from a text database (text; column 5, lines 20-54).

Regarding **claim 9**, Ittycheriah discloses a method wherein the audio module includes a speech synthesis unit (speech synthesis), which converts text data to speech data (TTS; column 5, lines 20-54).

Regarding **claim 10**, Ittycheriah discloses a method further comprising providing the text data from a text database (text; column 5, lines 20-54).

Regarding **claim 11**, Ittycheriah discloses a method further comprising:

creating a text database (text) in an automatic manner (automatic; column 5, line 20 - column 6, line 4); and

providing the text data to the speech synthesis unit from the text database (synthesis; column 5, lines 20-54).

Regarding **claim 14**, Ittycheriah discloses a method wherein the creating the text database is performed by automatically (automatically) reading the text data from the at least one text data source using a data processing system and wherein the automatically storing (memory) is performed using the data processing system (processor; column 5, line 20 – column 6, line 4).

Regarding **claim 15**, Ittycheriah discloses a method comprising:

creating the speech database by automated speech synthesis of text data (TTS synthesis) from a text database using a speech synthesis unit (text; column 5, lines 20-59) and

analyzing and processing the text data prior to the speech synthesis (column 5, lines 20-59).

Regarding **claim 16**, it is interpreted and rejected for similar reasons as set forth in claim 1. In addition, Furman discloses a speech recognition system comprising:

a vocabulary database (vocabulary; column 3, line 35 – column 4, line 14);

a text database (text; column 5, lines 20-59); and

a computer-based audio module (computer based; column 2, lines 60-64 and column 3, line 35 – column 4, line 14) a speech synthesis unit (speech synthesis) configured to receive text data from the text database (text) by acoustic speech input

(acoustic) and convert the data to speech data, the speech data stored in a speech database (column 3, lines 35-64 with column 5, lines 20-59).

wherein the speech data is spoken into the vocabulary database (vocabulary) in an automated manner (automatically) using the audio module so as to expand the vocabulary database (vocabulary expansion; column 3, lines 35-64 with column 5, lines 20-59).

Regarding **claim 17**, it is interpreted and rejected for similar reasons as set forth in claim 1. In addition, Wactlar discloses a method wherein a text database is generated automatically searching a telecommunications network for text data related to a selected search term (searchable text; column 7, lines 21-33 and column 8, lines 20-25 with column 17, lines 37-47).

5. **Claims 12-13** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ittycheriah in view of Besling et al. (USPN 6,363,348), hereinafter referenced as Besling.

Regarding **claim 12**, Ittycheriah discloses a method for expanding vocabulary, but does not specifically teach using a search engine.

Besling discloses a method comprising:

finding the text data in an internal or external telecommunications network (internet) using at least one search engine, the text data being associated with at least one search term (search; column 9, lines 42-49);

receiving the text data from at least one text data source (text; column 9, lines 42-49); and

automatically storing the text data in the text database (column 7, line 66 – column 9, line 49), for up-to-date textual data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ittycheriah's method as described above, to create a language model which matches the context identifier and is also available for user by other users having the same interest (column 9, lines 42-49), as taught by Besling.

Regarding **claim 13**, it is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 12. In addition, Besling discloses a method wherein the telecommunications network includes the Internet (Internet; column 6, lines 1-37)

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 2626

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAKIEDA R. JACKSON whose telephone number is (571)272-7619. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 5:30am-2:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on 571-272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jakieda R Jackson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2626
December 17, 2010